

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: June 7, 2013  
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## **UTILITY CUSTOMERS, GILA RIVER INDIAN COMMUNITY HELPING RESIDENTS IN NEED THROUGH UTILITY BILL DONATION PROGRAM**

**GLENDALÉ, Ariz.** – Eighteen local non-profit agencies received \$144,490 in grants Thursday (June 6) from Glendale's *From The Heart* program to provide emergency and other essential services to the city's most vulnerable children, families and elderly residents.

The grant funds will be used in a variety of ways, from providing home-delivered meals and home medical equipment to the frail and elderly to providing emergency programs for victims of domestic violence and abuse.

The money distributed to the social services agencies was raised through the city's *From The Heart* program, which enables residents and businesses to add \$1 to their city utility bills each month. The program also receives one-time donations.

In addition, the Gila River Indian Community donated \$75,000 towards this year's grant funding. This is the third year the Gila River Indian Community has donated money to the program totaling \$225,000 over the course of the partnership.

"The great thing about *From The Heart* is that all the money goes toward helping Glendale residents who truly have needs," said Mayor Jerry Weiers, who distributed the funds to agency representatives at a check presentation event at the Glendale Adult Center. "From providing emergency food boxes to helping those impacted by the devastating effects of Alzheimer's disease, this program supports so many people throughout our city."

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Agencies receiving grant funds this year are: the Alzheimer's Association - Desert Southwest Chapter – \$7,500; Back-to-School Clothing Drive Association – \$10,000; Big Brothers Big Sisters of Central Arizona – \$5,000; Boys & Girls Clubs of Metropolitan Phoenix (Glendale location) – \$10,000; Central Arizona Shelter Services – \$10,000; Duet - Partners in Health & Aging – \$5,000; First United Methodist Church of Glendale – \$8,000; Gabriel's Angels – \$4,000; and Hospice of the Valley – \$10,000.

Other agencies receiving funding are: Jewish Family and Children's Services – \$5,000; A New Leaf – \$5,000; Phoenix Gospel Mission – \$10,000; St. Mary's Food Bank Alliance – \$10,000; Salvation Army Glendale Corps – \$10,000; Society of St. Vincent de Paul – \$10,000; Solecito Services – \$9,990; Teen Lifeline – \$5,000; and YWCA of Maricopa County – \$10,000.

Money collected from the city utility bill donation program is distributed to local social service agencies through a grant application and selection process. The main criteria to receive funding is that agencies must provide services to Glendale residents that addresses urgent needs, strengthens families and promotes the positive development of youth. Thursday's distribution represents money donated to Glendale's *From The Heart* program during the 2012 calendar year.

Since *From The Heart* began in 1997, more than \$2.5 million has been collected and distributed to non-profit agencies serving the community.

Individuals or businesses that want to contribute to the program can mail a check or money order made out to "*From The Heart*" in any dollar amount to: From The Heart, Customer Service Office, City of Glendale, 5850 W Glendale Ave. Glendale, AZ 85301. All donations are tax deductible.

For more information, visit [www.glendaleaz.com/FromTheHeart](http://www.glendaleaz.com/FromTheHeart).

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